

Thursday, March 27, 2025

Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID

RPTP-0086

Contact details

Name:

Sarah Connolly

Do you wish to speak to your submission at a public hearing?

No

Topic 1: Are we focusing on the right things in the plan?

Do you agree that these focus areas capture Otago's public transport priorities?

Yes

Tell us more:

I am not fully on board with the Value for Money objective and priorities. I think public transport brings a wider community benefit that is not being considered.

Topic 2: Should we support community transport services in smaller towns and rural areas?

Our proposal: we are considering the establishment of a subsidised community transport programme providing support for transport services in Otago's smaller towns and rural areas.

What do you think about this proposal?

Do you agree with ORC having a role in supporting community transport services?

Yes

Topic 3: Should we increase our passenger fares?

Our proposal: we are considering increasing the base fare for adult Bee Card passengers from \$2 to

\$2.50. This would effectively increase bus fares for all passengers using Bee Cards by 25%.

What do you think about this proposal?

Should Council increase the adult Bee Card fare?

No

Tell us more:

I think increasing fares will make buses less attractive, and counter the other ambitions in the RPTP. Buses are far less convenient than most other modes of travel, and therefore using the bus should be relatively cheap in comparison.

Topic 4: Should we charge more for longer trips?

Our proposal: we are considering introducing a zone fare system to our bus networks in Dunedin and Queenstown. Under this system, passengers travelling further distances across multiple zones will pay a higher fare than those travelling short distances within one zone.

What do you think about this proposal?

Should Council charge more for longer trips?

No

Tell us more:

People who travel further do not have the option to walk or cycle, it is either the bus or driving. Increasing fares for those travelling further will drive these people back to using private vehicles, increasing emissions, parking demands and congestion.

Topic 5: Should we keep our free fares for children (5-12 years)?

Our proposal:

- A. Retain free fares (100% discount) for children (5-12 years), **AND**
- B. Standardise our concession discount for youth (13-18 years) to 40% across both the Dunedin and Queenstown networks. For example, if the adult fare is \$2, youth pay \$1.20, or if the adult fare is \$2.50, youth pay \$1.50.

What do you think about this proposal?

Should Council retain free fares (100% discount) for children (5-12 years)?

Yes

Tell us more:

Children do not have any income, and families are often stretched financially. It makes sense to let these people travel for free.

Should Council standardise our concession discount for youth (13-18 years) to 40% across both the Dunedin and Queenstown networks?

Yes

Tell us more:

It makes sense to have these consistent, and keep the discount for this age group.

Any other comments?

Let us know if you have any other comments or ideas on the topics discussed in the Draft Regional Public Transport Plan.

Please increase the frequency on the Otago Peninsula route (18). The hourly frequency during the day is not usable.

Please provide more capacity for the school bus service that is used to transport students from the peninsula to Bayfield/Kings schools. The buses are often full and don't stop, leaving students stranded, and/or uncomfortably full.